

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2, 8-11, 15, 21-23, 25 and 27-29 are amended. No new matter is added.

I. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The Office Action alleges that it is unclear how the "said second information" relates to "identical second information". As the claims are amended in reply to the rejection, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

II. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,706,457 to Dwyer et al. (Dwyer) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,192,191 to Suga et al. (Suga). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Dwyer nor Suga, whether considered alone or in combination, discloses or suggests each and every feature recited in the rejected claims, as amended. For example, the combination of references does not disclose or suggest an information processing apparatus that is electronically connectable to electronic equipment, the electronic equipment stores at least main image data, sub image data and sound data, each of the data having information including first information related to types of the data and identical second information that identifies interrelationships among the data, the apparatus executing a predetermined process for the main image data, the sub image data and the sound data stored in the electronic equipment, the apparatus comprising, *inter alia*, input means for inputting the information for each of the main image data, the sub image data and the sound data from the electronic equipment, as recited in amended claim 1.

The Office Action recognizes that Dwyer does not explicitly state that the sub image data and the sound data are stored in the electronic equipment, such as a digital camera. To

overcome the deficiency, the Office Action relies on Suga and alleges that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Dwyer by providing the electronic equipment described in Suga.

Suga discloses a recording apparatus and method for processing captured image and sound data (col. 1, lines 6-9). As shown in Fig. 1 of Suga, a directory for storing up to 1,000 captured data items, such as image data or sound data is created under the directory CAPTURED 231 (col. 7, lines 42-65). Thus, Suga discloses captured data directories of image data files, thumbnail image data files, and a combination of image data files and thumbnail data files. Suga also discloses capturing sound data as wav files (col. 8, lines 43-53). Thus, Suga discloses only capturing image files and sound files and does not disclose an apparatus executing a predetermined process for the main image data, the sub image data and the sound data stored in the electronic equipment.

Furthermore, there is no disclosure or suggestion in the combination of references of main image data, sub image data and sound data having information including first information relating to types of the data and identical second information that identifies interrelationships among the data. The Office Action alleges that each of the data that is in the same recording unit has the identical second information and cites Figs. 1, 4, 5, 18A and 18B. Applicants respectfully submit that there is nothing in Fig. 1 to indicate that all of the main image data, sub image data and sound data have information relating to the types of data, as well as identical second information that identifies interrelationships among the data. Rather, Fig. 1 merely shows a plurality of files having different filenames and extensions. Fig. 4 shows a schematic diagram showing a heap structure used as a basic structure of which variable length data is stored as a map file and Fig. 5 shows the general form of a record-type field. Additionally, Figs. 18A and 18B show examples of structures of an image file and a sound file only. Thus, the combination of Suga and Dwyer does not disclose or suggest main

image data, sub image data and sound data having information including first information and second information as recited in the rejected claims.

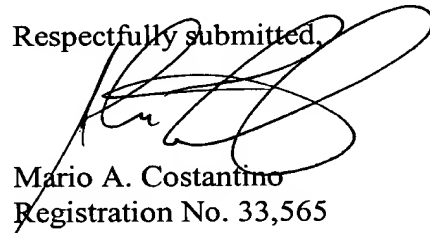
Furthermore, the combination of references fails to disclose or suggest an information processing apparatus comprising correlating means for correlating the first information (information relating to types of data) into units based on the identical, second information (information that identifies inter-relationships among the data). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1-30 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-30 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachment:

Petition for Extension of Time

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